

Chrono



NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

2 April 1958

Dear Colonel Burke:

I was glad to receive your letter of 24 March and most happy that you are interested in the assignment we discussed on the occasion of your visit to Washington. I am well aware that, after three years in command of an active tactical unit, an assignment behind a desk in Washington probably does not look attractive and I doubt if it can possibly be as satisfying as the work you have been doing. Nevertheless, I hope and believe it will turn out to be an interesting and challenging job and I think you will find at the very least that we can keep the frustrations and red tape to a minimum.

As to the schedule you propose, it is in the main entirely satisfactory to me. The only modification I may wish to suggest is that your period of TDY during the month of May begin slightly earlier than the 19th but I would like to study this matter further and advise you in the near future. All the rest of your plan is entirely satisfactory and I suggest you regard it as firm, assuming (which I am confident will be the case) that it is satisfactory to the Air Force. I will, therefore, count on your taking the time from 27 May until 23 June to dispose of your house, get yourself settled here and take some leave. I will be in touch with Colonel Geary on this matter so these arrangements can be confirmed through official channels.

May I say that I look forward with great pleasure to your presence. It is a source of real satisfaction to know that I will have the help of such a highly qualified officer as yourself.

Very sincerely yours,

RMB:djm

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✓ 1-Pro. Dir. Chrono

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Richard M. Bissell, jr.



HEADQUARTERS
70TH STRATEGIC RECONNAISSANCE WING MEDIUM
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
LITTLE ROCK AIR FORCE BASE
JACKSONVILLE, ARKANSAS

24 March 1958

Dear Mr Bissell:

I want to thank you for the time you gave me as well as the courtesies you extended during my recent visit to your office. First, I must apologize for my physical condition that particular day. I am afraid that the 22-hour day which preceded it had an adverse effect on any ability I might have to understand and analyze any given situation.

I hope the interviews and explanations did not take too much of your time from what appears to be a most ambitious daily schedule. However, it was tremendously interesting and stimulating to me. The mental transition from commanding a tactical unit to that of participating in an important project is considerable; however, since I have had some previous experience in plans, requirements, and allied subjects, I hope I will become useful to you in minimum time.

With this in mind, I would like to propose the following schedule of events which meets my family and local requirements here and I hope will be equitable to all concerned: (a) TDY to Washington from 19 to 27 May; (b) Disposition of house, completion of school, and arrival in Washington by 2 June; and (c) getting settled and leave, reporting for work on 23 June. This plan will lose me less leave than in previous years if it meets your requirement.

Thanks again for your help and courtesy. I am looking forward with great enthusiasm to an association with you and your work.

WILLIAM BURKE

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